

State Planning Project for the Uninsured
Data Synthesis Workgroup Activities
August 22, 2005 Update to the Advisory Council
Part II

Responsibilities: The Data Synthesis Workgroup (DSW) is responsible for reviewing data resources (both external and internal), reviewing data gathering designs/methodology/instruments/protocols and reports generated from project data gathered (household survey, employer survey, employer/insurance agent focus groups, Town Hall meetings), responding to data requests from the other workgroups, providing information to assist in the development of recommendations, and appropriate review of draft recommendations. Information provided to the other workgroups and staff also will include a review of the status of the safety net in Michigan, using relevant State, federal, and foundation information resources.

[See Workplan/Timeline]

The DSW is also responsible for generating responses to a series of questions from the granting agency (HRSA) about the Michigan insurance environment; the workgroup will collaborate with consultants to generate the responses required for interim HRSA reports, and will revise those answers for subsequent interim and final reports to HRSA.

Membership: The DSW has met twice (July and August). Membership at the July meeting was 16 persons, from a wide range of agencies and organizations. At the August meeting, membership had increased to 28, with representation from additional organizations, universities, and state agencies. Participants have been asked to indicate their preference as to task assignments in terms of knowledge, interests, and capacities; assignments will be made to special task teams, which will work towards completion of DSW tasks to meet the project timeline. [See Membership List]

Current Tasks: The current tasks of the DSW include review of the Employer Focus Group design and questions, and development (with the assistance of consultants) of interim answers to the HRSA insurance environment questions. The DSW also is collecting databases from federal, state, and foundation sources to be evaluated for usefulness, credibility, and topic relevance; databases will be listed in a spreadsheet maintained by the DSW and made available to all project participants. Specific uses for the selected databases will be suggested, and the DSW will work with consultants/contractors to identify, gain access to, and appropriately utilize data resources to reach the goals of the project.

Attachments:

1. Updated membership list
2. Workplan/Timeline
3. Focus Group Questions